

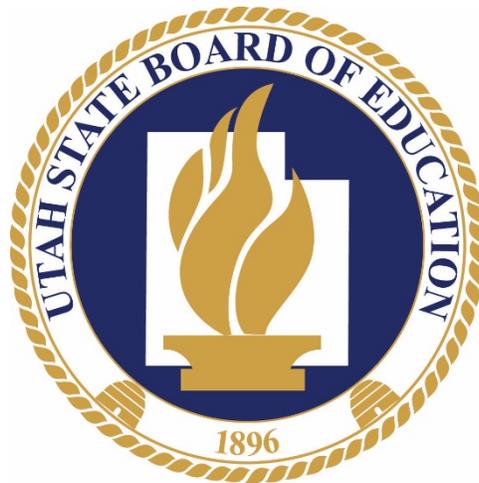
REPORT TO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

December 2016

Paraeducators in Title I Improvement Schools

SB 81 (53A-17a-168)

R277-524



Prepared by the
Utah State Board of Education

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STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

U.C.A Section SB 81 (53A-17a-168), R277-524 requires the Utah State Board of Education to submit an annual report to the Public Education Appropriations Committee on:

- The amount of money distributed to each eligible school;
- How many paraeducators were hired at each school;
- Additional funding eligible schools used to supplement program money in hiring paraeducators;
- Accountability measures used, including test scores of students.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Utah State Board of Education identified the Title I Priority schools. The SB 81 funds are allocated to local education agencies annually on July 15. The state funds are supplemental and must be used to hire additional qualified paraeducators to assist students who are at risk of not achieving proficiency in Reading/Language Arts.

In accordance with state statute, the Utah State Board of Education has updated rule R277-524. Local education agencies that accept these funds must agree to the following requirements:

- Paraeducators hired with these funds shall meet the Title I highly qualified paraprofessional requirements;
- Paraeducators hired with these funds shall provide additional aid in the classroom to assist students in achieving academic success;
- Schools that accept the Paraeducator Funding shall demonstrate, as required by USOE reporting, that funds are used to supplement other state and federal funds to provide paraeducator services.

BACKGROUND

This bill has provided ongoing funds for the purpose of hiring paraprofessionals since 2012.

METHODOLOGY (if applicable)

Sixteen Title I Priority schools received the funding provided by S.B. 81 in 2015-16 to enhance reading education by hiring paraprofessionals to assist the classroom teachers with reading instruction. Each Title I Priority school received \$18,750 to use for this purpose.

FINDINGS

The chart below summarizes the data from schools participating in the SB 81 program.

Number of schools receiving SB 81 funding	16
Number of paraeducators hired with SB 81 funds	20
Percentage of SB 81 schools reporting that paraeducators met Title I highly qualified requirements	88.2%
Additional funding from other sources used to hire paraeducators in SB 81 schools:	
Federal Title I	
Federal Title III	
Federal IDEA	
State Special Education	
State Class-size Reduction	
State Reading Achievement	
State Enhancement for At-Risk Students	
State School Trustlands	
Number of students served by SB 81 paraeducators	1,226
Percentage of students proficient on Utah assessments 2015 (pre-intervention)	18%
Percentage of students proficient on Utah assessments 2016 (post-intervention)	16.6%

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Schools expressed appreciation for this additional funding. Most schools were able to hire two paraprofessionals to tutor and assist students.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was prepared by Rebecca Donaldson under the direction of Director Ann White. Other State Board of Education staff who contributed to the report include Tandalaya Stitt and Becky Peters.

APPENDIX

The Utah State Legislature appropriated \$300,000 for this initiative for the 2015-2016 school year. Those funds were divided equally.

District	School	SB 81 Funding
Canyons	Midvale Elementary	\$18,750
Davis	Vae View Elementary	\$18,750
Dual Immersion	Dual Immersion Academy	\$18,750
East Hollywood High	East Hollywood High	\$18,750
Entheos Academy	Entheos Academy-Magna	\$18,750
Granite	Granger Elementary	\$18,750
Granite	South Kearns Elementary School	\$18,750
Granite	West Lake Junior High	\$18,750
Granite	Woodrow Wilson Elementary	\$18,750
Mana Academy	Mana Academy	\$18,750
Paradigm High	Paradigm High	\$18,750
Pinnacle Canyon	Pinnacle Canyon	\$18,750
San Juan	Monument Valley High School	\$18,750
San Juan	Tse'bii'nidzigai Elementary School	\$18,750
San Juan	Montezuma Creek Elementary School	\$18,750
Tooele	Wendover High School	\$18,750
Total		\$300,000